



City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Department of Transportation

Scott Kubly, Director

SDOT Policy on Political Yard Signs

Please pass this information along to those in your organization responsible for distributing yard signs.

The Seattle Department of Transportation ("SDOT") manages the placement of signs in the public right-of-way. Political yard signs may be located in planting strips in front of private property with the consent of the occupant of that property. These signs shall not obstruct pedestrian mobility or interfere with traffic visibility. The signs may not exceed 8 square feet in area or be supported by stakes that are more than one foot in the ground. Signs shall not be more than 36 inches in height as measured from the street or driveway grade and shall not be more than 24 inches in height as measured from the street or driveway grade when located within 30 feet from an intersection (Seattle Municipal Code 23.55.012.C).

SDOT may issue citations to candidates and ballot issue committees for signs that have been illegally placed in the public right-of-way by their volunteers. SDOT may also remove the signs without notice.

Enforcement can be initiated based on complaints, provided that a specific location and photos are provided. The penalty for a first citation is \$250. The penalty escalates to \$500 for repeated infractions if the illegally placed sign is not removed. The public may remove illegally placed signs in front of their home or business. SDOT does not want the public removing signs from medians or traffic circles for safety reasons.

If you have additional questions or would like to register a complaint, contact SDOT at (206) 684-5267 or by email at annualpermits@seattle.gov